

Checking

Food ★ Fun ★ Frolic
By Bill Whitman

It's Time for Resolutions...

Yup, this is as good a time as any to make those New Year resolutions. Of course resolutions, like rules, are made to be broken (which many of them usually are) but we can get off on the right foot for '69 anyway.

Why not start things off with resolving to take the little woman out to dinner more often in 1969? She'd like it and you never can tell, you just might get to enjoy it a bit yourself.

Take a squint at the offering over at the Pen and Quill Restaurant in Manhattan Beach for example. Here's something pretty good for openers. It's the chateaubriand served with champagne and will run you just \$6.95. And hey, that's not apiece — that's for two! Can't hardly beat that, now can you? Heck, at that price you can even afford to leave a decent tip and make a hero out of yourself with the waiters and waitresses.

Then swing along down there to San Pedro if you should be in the mood for a short drive and a feel sort of nautical, view wise. Right there at the rear of the parking lot at 900 North Western Ave. you'll find the

New Harborlight Restaurant at your disposal where dinners start at \$2.95 per copy.

Where, also, you may have a startling view of the new Vincent Thomas Bridge spanning the gap between San Pedro and Terminal Island across the channel leading to the big Los Angeles Harbor below.

There's dancing and entertainment nightly in the lounge here and they offer huge banquet facilities for meetings and general get togethers.

Then for sheer entertainment, remember, the new Holiday On Ice opens this week at the fabulous New Forum in Inglewood through the 12th.

There'll be evening as well as matinee performances of this new 1969 edition, featuring Ronnie Robertson who is hailed as the world's greatest skater. You might include the whole family on this little jaunt but you better get some reservations picked up 'cause as we get it, they're going fast for the good seats.

However, from what we've seen of the Forum, you can see from just about any seat in the place. No poles to obstruct your vision. Just an occasional usherette.

But to think of it—they're not too b-a-d to look at either.

Among the new attractions is West Germany's Marie Langenbein in her first United States appearance.

Of course the old favorites are still with the Holiday show such as Anna Galmarni, the Italian champ; Grete Borgen of Norway; the famous and thrilling Cook family including Mom and Dad, 8-year-old Mellanie and the 7-year-old twins, Kris and Kelly; and Alice Quessy the sparkling prima ballerina, plus a whole bunch of other acts including a carload of comics.

Now by way of combining entertainment and good dining, remember the Matador Restaurant in West Los Angeles on Pico Boulevard.

Here you'll find one of the most complete Flamenco floor shows on the Pacific coast in the cozy Flamenco Room, downstairs from the main dining rooms.

This show is headed by the sensational singing and dancing artist Genaro Gomez as well as the internationally famed Spanish guitarist, Gino Dauri.



TURN IT LOOSE—And when the Scotty Scott Trio do turn those instruments loose you've got nothing but great sounds at the New Harborlight Restaurant in San Pedro. They appear nightly in the lounge from 9 p.m.

You'll also find the long time favorite of the Matador, Maria Del Rey, plus Flamenco dancers Melanie Thompson and Nuri Lovet.

And for authentic Spanish (not Mexican) food you'll find it hard to beat the cuisine offered at Bill Fremont's snappy little Spanish bistro. The prices are right here, too, so don't miss it for good food, excellent entertainment and superb cocktails. You'll really make points here.

Riviera Hotel you'll find vivacious Mitzie Gaynor in the Versailles Room of this popular Strip hostelry.

Not only chicken and ribs are featured here but shortribs and tacos as well.

Now this word doesn't come from owners Pete and Anne Petroff. It came from customers of BBQ Pete—"The World's Best BBQ" and from the sampling we've had of this fine eating, might even be ready to go along with them. It's truly great.

And they boast a huge cocktail bar and lounge here that leaves nothing to be desired, from the decor, the service, the generosity of the cocktails and the complete comfort to you the patron. Also one of the best color TV sets, centrally located behind the bar, that we've ever viewed events at! (AT Always have said "a preposition is the worst thing in the world to end a sentence with!")

Anyway, preposition or not, it doesn't change things at BBQ Pete for quality and just good friendliness. Try 'em some time!

Like to live dangerously? Well, here's a spot where it's not in the slightest dangerous to dine although their advertising reads "an adventure in Cantonese dining."

This would be at the King Far Low Restaurant, 10974 West Pico Blvd. in West Los Angeles.

From 11:30 in the morning 'til 11:30 at night, Jimmy over there puts out some of the quality of foods of Canton you'll enjoy anywhere.

Here, too, you may enjoy a libation or two at their huge cocktail bar while awaiting your table, which is never too long a wait. It's a large restaurant with lots of seating space but on occasions you may have just a short wait. But Jimmy, who doubles in brass behind the bar,

There's another spot in Inglewood that should prove interesting if you've never made it before.

That's at the beautiful BBQ Pete Restaurant at 11109 Hawthorne Blvd., for some delicious habit-forming barbecue dining.

Upstairs it's the Penthouse Restaurant where also the cuisine is superb and just across the way a few steps is the Penthouse Lounge where you'll find the exciting Dave Howard Trio in the center of the circular bar for your dancing and listening pleasure nightly.

In Torrance at the Ramada Inn, John Gregory, owner-host, has some big plans in mind for you during 1969, including a businessman's lunch aimed at pleasing the male palate, weekly fashion shows, and Mexican Fiesta Week.

You should also keep in mind John's special offering of his flaming dinner but he does right at your table, and some delights this man puts out you wouldn't believe until you've tasted them.

Meanwhile, it's The Marshmellows for dancing and listening.

Well, so now it's back to the same routine at Rose and Louie Song's Tea House Restaurant on Crenshaw in Torrance.

Monday through Saturday it's The Young Polynesians, as per and then on Monday night it's Hawaiian Nite, like before.

But you can always have a ball at the Tea House, irrespective of what's going on 'cause there's a good bunch of guys and gals that frequent this spot and especially in Ronnie's intimate little cocktail lounge at the rear of the main dining rooms.

And don't forget the wonderful Cantonese food available at the Tea House. Not only do you find quality but quantity coming out

will make your wait seem ever so short.

Jimmy's thinking on this is that by tending bar for his customers, he has an opportunity to get closer to them, thereby know his clientele a bit better. This is true. Spent a bit of time at the plank, too, and have always found it to be that your customers seem to let down a bit more while seated at the bar than at the tables. And one does get to know them a little more intimately.

Over on Century Boulevard you'll find (find? You can't miss it!) the International Hotel right there at Sepulveda. But if you're traveling South on Sepulveda, watch that cut-off or you'll have to do the tunnel bit and then double all the way back through it again.

They boast three or four spots here. There's the charming Hunt Room which is a popular room for luncheon meetings as it's right off the lobby of the hotel and easy to get to. And adjacent to this is the Trophy Lounge where The Rick Michaels Trio plays for your enjoyment nightly.

Remember Evie King who's played piano around our town for some time? Well, just got a memo from The Bride Path Restaurant on Palos Verdes Blvd., in Torrance.

This little gal's playing over there Friday and Saturday nites, in case you were wondering where to catch her.

And who's tending to the libation department? Why none other than Dirty Ernie, that's who! (Pssst! Ernie's Ernie's better half!)

So, it's the Evie King Duo at the piano so catch 'em.

of Uncle Joe's kitchen here. Had dinner there one nite and couldn't eat it all so what happened? The kindly and helpful little waitress packed up the rest in a doggie bag and would you believe there was enough for a midnight snack that same nite as well as lunch the following day. Woosh! Such-a-sucha!

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Fresh Sounds

By TONY KISS

WHITE LIGHT/WHITE HEAT — (Verve V/V-5046) A new and "total" sound by The Velvet Underground include tracks such as "Lady Godiva's Operation," "Sister Ray" and "There She Comes Now," compositions taking into account that people need more than entertaining music. Unfortunately for the Velvets, their earlier shows produced by Andy Warhol gave the group a false fixed hard image and missed or wanted to miss the prettier and softer visions and sounds which is really the essence of The Velvets. Their soft, free-flowing, mesmerizing melodies are lulling the listeners into visions where the antipodes of dreams and reality are masterfully bent together.

LATE AGAIN — (Warner Brothers) This new Peter, Paul and Mary LP consists among others their former great single success "Too Much of Nothing" one of the two Dylan songs on the album, the other being "I Shall Be Released." Both songs, especially the first one, are fine representatives of Dylan's mind-nutritive lyrics, wonderfully harmonized by the master vocalist trio. They may not be as much in the limelight as before and may use more instrumental effects this time, but they are still rated among the highest standard groups of their contemporaries.

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